REMARKS

Upon entry of the present Amendment, claim 20 will have been amended to correct a clerical error, and claims 26-35 will have been added. Claims 1-25 remain pending for consideration by the Examiner. Applicant notes that newly-added claims 26-34 generally correspond to previously-presented claims 17-25.

With respect to Applicant's amendment to claim 20, Applicant submits that this amendment has not been made for a purpose related to patentability, but rather is a clarifying amendment that is cosmetic in nature that <u>is not</u> intended to narrow the scope of the claims. Accordingly, this amendment should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Applicant thus respectfully requests entry of the herein-contained amendment.

P23702.A07

Should there by any questions regarding this paper or the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Hiroshi NOMURA

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